

Iron County Register.

BY ELI D. AKE.

IRONTON, MISSOURI.

As reported by R. G. Dun & Co., failure for the week ended on the 25th, were 204 in the United States, against 157 last year, and 18 in Canada, against 21 last year.

Mexico's congress has declared the result of the late presidential election. Gen. Porfirio Diaz was unanimously elected, and will be inaugurated next December.

Fifty per cent. of the 3,000 coke ovens in McDowell and Mercer counties, in West Virginia, have been put out of blast recently, throwing out of employment 1,500 men.

The statement of the treasury balances in the general fund, exclusive of the \$150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, issued on the 25th, showed: Available cash balance, \$137,245,052; gold, \$80,901,604.

A large number of warrants were issued, on the 25th, to officials of the New York city health department for the arrest of persons charged with violating the smoke ordinance by burning bituminous instead of anthracite coal.

The 120 cities of the country of over thirty thousand inhabitants each show a total population of 18,256,872. By a curious coincidence this is almost exactly the total population of the 3,175 cities and villages of the United States of 1,000 or more inhabitants in 1890, which was 18,235,672.

A dispatch from Peking, dated the 21st, says: "All the foreign ministers have addressed notes to Prince Ching, suggesting the return to Peking of the emperor and the court. The notes were informal and the writers do not consider them binding upon their respective governments."

At Frankfort, Ky., on the 26th, the jury in the case of James Howard, on trial for alleged complicity in the Goebel assassination, returned a verdict of guilty. Howard did not display the least agitation in the court room, but later, when writing to his wife, broke down and wept bitterly.

The steamer Farallon sailed from Vancouver, B. C., on the 27th, for the north with one of the largest and costliest single shipments of mining machinery ever shipped to the Klondike. Almost six hundred tons of all kinds of hydraulic plants and other gold mining machinery made up the cargo.

Capt. Frederick Dent Sharp, U. S. A., retired, nephew of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, died in Kansas City, Mo., on the 27th, from an overdose of bromide, taken for the purpose of relieving nervousness and pain. Capt. Sharp was totally blind, and it is supposed that he was unable to properly gauge the quantity of the drug taken.

Dispatches from various points in the Rocky mountains, on the 25th, showed that there had been a heavy snowfall. At Red mountains near Ouray, snow was reported three feet deep. At Leadville there was about two inches on the level. The snow was accompanied by a high wind which made the weather decidedly disagreeable.

In a letter to friends in Santo Domingo, Gen. Maximo Gomez says, among other good things: "In the national convention will originate two political parties, which will focus the views of all good Cubans. I have longed eagerly for the moment now about to arrive. With the convention, the work of revolution will terminate."

The national convention of the Young People's Christian Temperance union opened in Kansas City on the evening of the 25th. Delegates from all parts of the country were present. A choir of 200 voices sang rally songs. The 25th was the anniversary of the birth of Miss Frances E. Willard, and the meeting was in commemoration of the day.

The socialist congress in Paris adopted a proposition to establish an international secretariat and a permanent committee entrusted with the work of preparing the execution of the decisions of the congresses. This committee will sit at Brussels. This decision will probably do away with the congresses, the permanent committee replacing them.

Gov. Roosevelt was assaulted by hoodlums at Victor, Col., where he spoke on the 26th. In spite of the Rough Riders and other friends who escorted him to the railroad station, he was struck on the breast with a club, but not seriously injured. The man who hit him was promptly knocked down by Daniel W. Sullivan, postmaster at Cripple Creek.

A special from Valley City, N. D., on the 25th, said: "Judge J. M. Dennett has just returned from the Cascade mountain district of Washington, bringing samples and news of the location of vast fields of pure anthracite coal. The veins located by him are 19 feet thick and underlie a square mile of ground. He estimates the quantity of coal in sight at 25,000,000 tons."

Lieut.-Gen. Miles, on the 28th, issued a general order to the army intended to secure improvement in the morale and physical condition of the force. The order particularly directs the celebration of national holidays by patriotic readings, strict attention to salutes, respect for the flag and attention to good martial music, especially vocal music.

The Ventura, the third and last of the big freight steamers that are being built at Philadelphia for the Oceanic Steamship Co., was launched, on the 26th, at Cramps' shipyard. Miss Elsie Crommiller, niece of John D. Spreckles, president of the company, christened the vessel. The Sierra and Sonoma are the Ventura's sister ships, and all three will ply between San Francisco and Australia.

OCTOBER—1900.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Zenas L. Martin, of Iowa, has been chosen to have charge of the Friends' mission work in Cuba. The Quakers will establish many missions there.

At the meeting of the Rapid Transit commissioners of New York, on the 27th, a resolution was passed for a tunnel to Brooklyn, to follow a route favored by Comptroller Cole, who estimates that the cost of construction will be about six million dollars.

A New York dispatch of the 26th said that negotiations were under way for the settlement of the anthracite coal miners' strike. Cardinal Gibbons having consented to act as mediator between the miners and the operators.

Every day's labor at Galveston only shows that the first estimates of the loss of life during the great storm were far below the actual count. It is estimated that fully 500 bodies are confined in a pile of driftwood which is twenty feet high at some points.

Frank Devereaux, property man of a theatrical company, who lost everything he had in the Galveston hurricane, while trying to beat his way north, was arrested by the sheriff at Evergreen, Ala., and sentenced by a magistrate at Greenville to the Pratt City mines until December 15, as a vagrant, in default of \$5 fine and \$25 costs.

The health of Secretary of State Hay has improved rapidly of late, and it is expected that he will return to Washington in a few days and resume the duties of his office, relieving Dr. Hill, the acting secretary, who has been suffering from a malarial attack.

Twenty-three men and women, pledging themselves to eat no food that has been cooked, have organized the Chicago Raw Food society with B. Tyler as president. It was decided to try to bring about the organization of kindred societies throughout the United States.

The Russian naval staff announces that it is proposed to blockade all Chinese naval ports, in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Chinese fleet at Shanghai, and to send fast cruisers from the allied squadrons to protect their transports.

The determination of the United States to withdraw her troops from China, while at the same time increasing the strength of her fleet in Chinese waters, is rather disconcerting to the European powers. But the interpretation put on it in official circles is that the United States is resolved to protect the policy of the open door to the exclusion of the military.

The American line steamship New York arrived at Southampton, on the evening of the 27th, 17½ hours late. Her delay was caused by the fracture of her starboard thrust shaft, which was, fortunately, discovered before an actual break occurred.

While a woman was engaged in cleaning a suit of clothes in Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 25th, a blaze, generated by the brisk rubbing of gasoline, communicated to a tub of the liquid standing near by, causing an explosion and fire that resulted in the death of two persons and serious injury to two others.

The census bureau announces that the population of Spokane, Wash., is 35,848, as against 19,922 in 1890. This is an increase of 16,926, or 84.96 per cent.

One customs inspector is still under suspension in New York and a deputy surveyor of the port has been accused of collusion with smugglers in passing dutiable goods into this country. The accusation is based on an autograph confession made by Mrs. M. Shanahan, a dressmaker.

Reports received, on the night of the 27th, indicated that the Trinity and Colorado rivers in Texas were again rapidly rising and compelling people on the bottom lands to seek safety on higher ground. Much cotton and live stock is reported lost.

Randies Abrahamson, the 19-year-old boy who was accused of setting 13 fires in Duluth, Minn., last spring, was sentenced, on the 28th, to ten years at hard labor in the state penitentiary. He was convicted of setting fire to a stable in which a human life was lost. On that same night, according to his own confession, he set four other fires.

It is reported in Shanghai that Russia has offered to advance money to China to repay the British loan.

Reports of the 28th, from the scene of the anthracite coal miners' strike would seem to indicate that some sort of settlement, in which the miners would get at least a portion of their demands granted, was not far off.

Following the disclosure that a majority of the powers have followed the United States' lead in rejecting the Kaiser's latest Chinese proposal, comes the report that Germany has already arranged to recede from the more radical features of its position.

Representatives of foreign nations, notably Japan, China, Italy and Germany, are, by the courtesy of the census bureau, studying our methods of enumeration and compilation of industrial statistics.

The oldest editor in the United States, G. G. Galloway, is lying at the point of death at his daughter's home in Denver, Col. He was struck by a tramway car, and sustained a dislocated shoulder and severe internal injuries. His great age, 88 years, makes the chance strong against his recovery.

William K. Vanderbilt has given his check for \$500,000 to his daughter, the duchess of Marlborough. The gift is in the nature of a thank offering for the duke of Marlborough's safe return from the war in South Africa.

Great Britain has sent a note of warning to Holland intimating that if Mr. Kruger is allowed to carry out his Dutch warship which is to take him to Europe, it will be regarded as a breach of neutrality.

A dispatch from Gen. McArthur of the 25th, reports that Capt. Devereaux Shields and 51 men of Company F, Twenty-ninth volunteers, on board the gunboat Villalobos, who left Santa Cruz, Marinduque island, for Torrijos, on a scout, have fallen into the hands of the enemy. No particulars. Josiah K. Adams, a prominent club man and lawyer of Philadelphia, committed suicide, on the 28th, in a fashionable hotel in the center of the city. His wife was in an adjoining room when the deed was committed. She knows of no reason for the act.

George Cross, of the plen of guilty, was sentenced, at Terre Haute, Ind., on the 28th, to prison for 20 years for perjury, in swearing that he saw Frederick Dick, of the Anti-Saloon league, drunk in a saloon on a Sunday.

Wolf Bros.' bank, at Centerville, Mich., was robbed, on the night of the 27th, of \$10,000. Thieves gained entrance through the rear of the building and blew the vault open with dynamite. The bank was insured in the Bankers' Mutual Casualty Co., of Des Moines, for \$100,000 against loss by burglary or fire.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

Gov. Sayers of Texas, on the 26th, gave out the following statement: "The amount of money received by me up to noon, September 30, for the benefit of the storm sufferers, is \$672,476.29. This sum includes \$3,552.59 that remained in my hands of the fund contributed for the relief of the Brazos river valley sufferers last year. It also includes all drafts and authorizations to draw and which are in transit and are yet uncollected."

The quarterly statement of the commissioner of navigation shows that 308 sailing vessels, of 88,790 gross tons, were built in the United States, and officially numbered during the quarter ended September 30, 1900. Of the whole number 190 were built on the Atlantic and gulf coasts, 28 on the Pacific, 32 on the great lakes, and 58 on the western rivers.

An interesting report comes from Koomport to the effect that Mr. Kruger, in a letter to his wife, announcing that he was going on a six months' holiday, said in substance that after the capture of Machadodorp he knew the strategic value of the place and counselled moderation, but that Mr. Steyn's "arbitrary behavior" overruled his counsels.

The Filipinos in the vicinity of Manila have been more quiet of late, although there have been brisk attacks at Iloilo and Zamboanga, south of Manila, as well as outbreaks at Iloilo, Bacoor and Muntin Lupa. The American officers are satisfied that the alleged amigros living around the towns in question participated in these attacks.

Capt. Samuel E. Smiley, of the Fifteenth regiment, formerly a member of the staff of Gen. B. H. Loring, who proceeded to China to join his regiment, but broke down there, owing to the climate and hard work, is returning to the United States on the supply ship Celtic.

Sexto Lopez, formerly secretary and confidant of Gen. Aguinaldo, arrived at New York, on the 26th, on the Campania. Lopez is said to have come at the invitation of Fisk Warren, and he expects to explain to the people the Filipinos' side of their fight with this country.

At every colliery in the anthracite region a notice was posted, on the 26th, announcing a ten-per-cent. increase in wages based on the present scale, effective October 1, and that the operators will arbitrate any grievance their employees may present.

The Russian war office announced, on the 1st, that dispatches from Khabarovsk and Kharbin to Tschichagoff sent Col. Kopeikin, with a detachment of Cossacks, railroad troops and volunteers to engage a force of Chinese who had occupied the railroad at San Chakan. The Russians won two obstinate fights. Forty-three dead Chinese were left on the trenches after the second engagement.

The Austrian steamer Styria Lloyd, sailed from Lorenzo Marquez, on the 1st, having on board 400 Transvaal refugees, part of them being Irish-Americans. All of their expenses had been paid by the Transvaal government. Each man had received 30 shillings and will be paid £8.10 (42.50) on landing if any port which may be elected by them.

Several hundred employees of the Reading Iron Co., of Danville, Pa., decided, on the 1st, to accept the 25 per cent. reduction in their wages, which went into effect on September 16, and against which they struck. The men agreed to resume work as soon as the plant could be placed in operation.

The population of Los Angeles, Cal., as announced by the census bureau, is: 1900, 102,479; 1890, 50,395. These figures show an increase in population of 52,084, or 103.35 per cent. from 1890 to 1900. The population in 1880 was 11,183, showing an increase of 39,212, or 350.6 per cent. from 1880 to 1890.

The Methodist (O.) Ministerial association, comprising pastors of various Protestant churches of that city, held a meeting, on the night of the 1st, at the home of Rev. L. G. Bateman, pastor of the Christian church, and adopted resolutions condemning mob violence against the Dowdites.

The imports of wheat into Liverpool for the week ended on the 26th, were 113,300 quarters from Atlantic ports. There were no receipts from Pacific or other ports. The imports of American corn for the week were 90,100 quarters.

The Quincy (Ill.) jail holds Fred Thuman, ex-elderman; George G. Blunt, ex-school superintendent; and Capt. Henry, ex-postmaster, all charged with embezzlement from fraternal societies.

Over nine hundred men of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth infantry (colored) sailed from San Francisco for Manila, on the 1st, on the transport Hancock.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Ruskin Hall, at Trenton. Walter Vrooman, a St. Louis boy, whose establishment of Ruskin hall, a workmen's college, at Oxford, England, has given him a world-wide reputation, has made arrangements with the trustees of Avalon college, at Trenton, an institution which has hitherto been under the auspices of the United Brethren church, whereby the name of the institution is changed to Ruskin college, and it becomes the center of the American system of Ruskin halls, with branches in every state in the Union, and affiliating with the English institution.

[The labor unions of Great Britain raised \$20,000 to establish such an institution in America and sent two delegates, C. W. Bowerman and James Sexton, of New York for that purpose. Lord Dunsavon and other English noblemen took an interest in the matter and swelled the contribution to \$30,000, and also contributed to a loan fund of \$100,000, which is to be used in assisting deserving young men and women in school for four years. There is a fine 50-acre farm at Trenton and a 1,000-acre farm has been secured for the carrying out of the plan.]

A Schoolboy's Tragic Death. Eddie Litzinger, 13 years of age, was killed by an electric car near his home in St. Louis county. The coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that death was caused by accident, which could have been avoided by a proper watchfulness on the part of the motorman. Eddie was the son of August Litzinger, a well-known farmer north of Clayton. In company with his sister, Florence, aged seven; a brother, eight years of age, and Lulu Becker, the eight-year-old daughter of a neighbor, he was returning from school. Where the road crosses the track there is a guard rail running parallel with the track around a curve, a small tree being left between them. Into this slot the boy's foot slipped as he was crossing. The resulting fall wedged his foot into the crevice so tightly that he was unable to extricate it. His companions endeavored to stop the electric car that was coming, but it ran over the boy.

Her Life for a Pet Dog. A pet dog was directly responsible for the death of Mrs. G. A. Barker, of No. 3618 East avenue, St. Louis, who was struck by a street car, sustaining injuries to which she succumbed. Mrs. Barker was the wife of G. A. Barker, a clerk in a department store, and was a first cousin of Gov. Stephens. She was sweeping the pavement in front of her home, when the dog ran on to the car track. An east-bound car was approaching at a rapid rate of speed, and Mrs. Barker believed her pet dog had been crushed to death. She rushed upon the tracks and tried to catch the dog. Just as she did so the car struck her, knocking her down and passing over her.

Disastrous Attempt at Suicide. W. T. Horn attempted to kill himself with a shotgun at his boarding house on South street, Springfield. He and his wife were on the bed together when the attempt was made, and she grazed the gun to make it from him. In the scuffle that followed it was discharged, the contents crashing through her right forearm, necessitating amputation, and destroying the thumb on his right hand, which also had to be taken off. Horn is regarded as partially demented through the use of opium. The house where the shooting occurred is a saloon, it having been the headquarters of the Union army in the civil war.

Miss Cockrell a Favorite. Writing from Paris to the Washington Post, E. B. Hay, a well-known lawyer, describes a number of prominent persons, and says of Miss Cockrell: "None has been more the delightful recipient of generous attention than Miss Cockrell, the daughter of Senator Cockrell, who, as a beautiful girl, she won great admiration. Tall and slender, she has a queenly grace through the green 'salon' of the hotel."

Wheat Sowing. Wheat sowing is in progress, and in some of the western counties is nearly completed. Some early-sown wheat is up and looking well. In a few of the central and eastern counties seeding will be delayed to avoid injury by fly.

The Pastures. Pastures are still very short in many of the northern and eastern counties, but where good rains have fallen they are improving. In many of the central and western counties they are reported in excellent condition.

Stole From Her Brother. Mrs. Octavia Anubuchon was sentenced, at Clayton, to serve two years in the penitentiary upon her plea of guilty to charge of having stolen money from her brother.

Potatoes Rotting. Potatoes are still rotting badly in some of the southern counties, and there is complaint of second growth.

To Vote on New Courthouse. The county court of Bates county ordered an election November 4 for the purpose of voting upon a proposition to build a \$50,000 courthouse.

To Prevent Typhoid. Officers of the St. Louis health department are endeavoring to prevent the spread of typhoid fever, and urge the boiling and filtering of water.

Receiver for Oregon County Bank. Judge W. N. Evans has named Hon. J. P. Woodside, a Thayer merchant, as receiver of the Oregon County bank, which closed August 15.

The Apple Crop. The cooler weather has been more favorable for apples, but they are still dropping to a considerable extent. Picking has commenced.

A Grave Digger's Celebration. August Limberg, of St. Louis, held a celebration in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the beginning of his work as a grave digger.

Thinks He is a Millionaire. Mike McNamara, motorman on a St. Louis owl car, is trying to establish a claim to a million-dollar estate in Pennsylvania.

King of Butler Street Fair. The contest for king of the Butler street fair carnival resulted in the election of Frank Koontz.

GERMANY'S PROPOSITION.

The Alignment of the Powers on the German Proposition Definitely Stated.

THE DREIBUND SHOWS A SOLID FRONT.

Great Britain, Russia and France Stand with the United States, While Japan Occupies a Middle Attitude—Nothing Known of a New Proposition.

Washington, Sept. 30.—The alignment of the powers on the German proposition to make the punishment of the Chinese ring leaders a condition precedent to negotiations may now be stated as follows: Great Britain, Russia and France stand with the United States in regarding this proposition as inexpedient. Japan occupies a middle attitude; she is willing to follow the German lead if all the other powers are agreeable, but only for the sake of preserving harmony among the powers, and not from a belief in the wisdom of the German proposition.

Dreibund Shows a Solid Front. Austria and Italy stand shoulder to shoulder with Germany, making the dreibund a solid front. The first-named two powers do not attempt to argue the German proposition, and their answers make it apparent that they have accepted it without much consideration.

Nothing is known here officially of the alternative proposition which is reported to be preparing in Europe. If it contained the same feature as to punishment as the original proposition, it is not likely to receive approval here.

Will Not Change Things.

The fact that Secretary Hay is expected to return to Washington next week will not change in any way the policy of the state department. The secretary has been in the closest sympathetic touch with all that has been done respecting China, and the stories printed in Germany to the effect that he is coming back to reverse those policies is pronounced at the state department to be absurd. The officials are impressed, and have been from the beginning, with the conviction that any attempt made to punish Prince Tuan before negotiations are undertaken will absolutely defeat all efforts to obtain a peaceable and satisfactory settlement.

Cause of Prince Tuan's Promotion.

Indeed, it is believed that the attempt of Germany to apprehend such Chinese officials at this stage has actually been the cause of Prince Tuan's promotion, rather than anything contained in the American refusal of the German proposition. It is pointed out that an inevitable result of such an effort would be to cause the Chinese officials against whom it was directed to strike by every means in their power to secure the support of the throne, just as Tuan has in this case.

A NEW CENSUS FEATURE.

Analysis to be Made of Census Statistics by the Division of Methods and Results.

Washington, Sept. 30.—One of the most interesting features of the census bureau, as well as a new one in such work, will be the analysis that is to be made of census statistics by the division of methods and results, of which Prof. Walter F. Willcox, of Cornell university, is in charge. It is to be the duty of Mr. Willcox to show what the cold figures of the census means, for, though "figures do not lie," a failure to properly interpret them often causes them to give false impressions. With a view of securing expert comment on all the statistics of the census, returns on various subjects will be sent to experts who have national reputations. Health statistics will be interpreted by men who have for years made a special study of such matters, and mortality statistics will probably be placed in the hands of insurance experts for their explanation and comment. So it will be in all lines of census work. The result of this explanation of the figures is expected to be one of the most popular of all the census bureau's accomplishments.

THE RISE IN TRINITY RIVER.

It is Unprecedented and Many Farms in the Valley are Totally Ruined.

Port Worth, Tex., Sept. 30.—The unprecedented rise in the Trinity river continues with no immediate prospect of receding. The waters have inundated the entire bottoms in the valley and many valuable farms are totally ruined. The Rock Island bridge over West Fork, near Newark, was washed away Friday night.

A Historic Flag.

New York, Sept. 30.—A historic flag, which will recall the early life of Admiral Sampson, has been forwarded to him by E. W. Hill of Rochester. This flag floated on the Patapsco, of which Admiral Sampson was commander at the time when it was sunk in the Dutch Gap canal in 1862.

Order of the Red Eagle.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 30.—Emperor William of Germany has bestowed the order of the Red Eagle on Maj.-Gen. Stoenel, "commander of the international forces at Taku and Tien Tsin."

Committed Suicide.

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 1.—Warner M. Newbold, superintendent of the South and North and Birmingham mineral divisions of the Nashville and Nashville railroad, committed suicide at his residence in this city, yesterday, by shooting himself in the mouth with a 38-caliber pistol.

Burned to Death.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 30.—Mrs. R. C. Pickett was burned to death at her home by the explosion of a lamp.

AN INCREASE OFFERED.

The Coal Companies Post Not an Offer of an Increase of Ten Per Cent. to Miners.

Philadelphia, Oct. 1.—An offer of an increase of ten per cent. in miners' wages was inaugurated by the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., and this move, it is stated, will be followed, on Tuesday, by similar notices at every colliery in the anthracite region. It is said by the operators that this increase in wages will be satisfactory to the men, and they believe many of the strikers will take advantage of the offer and return to work. Mining operations will in this event be given an impetus, and the operators expect there will then be a gradual resumption until the collieries will again have their full complement of employees. The Philadelphia & Reading company operates 35 collieries, and of these 27 have been shut down owing to insufficient working force.

Whether the miners will accept the proffer of the company and return in sufficient numbers to operate the mines can not be foretold. Report received from several points in the Schuylkill region, where the Reading collieries are located, rather indicate that the mine workers will follow the instructions of their organizing officials and remain away.

President Mitchell, of the Miners' Union, received notice of the intention of the operators to offer the increase in wages, and the only intimation is thus given that the miners' organization will receive no recognition from the operators.

NOTICE OF AN INCREASE.

Counter Notice Asking the Strikers to Pay No Attention to Company's Offer.

Philadelphia, Oct. 1.—The following notice, bearing date of October 1, was posted yesterday in the vicinity of all the collieries of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., in the anthracite region:

Philadelphians & Reading Coal and Iron Co., Oct. 1, 1900.—This company will pay an advance of ten per cent. on the wages of all men and boys employed at its collieries. This advance takes effect to-day. [Signed] R. C. LUTHER, General Superintendent.

Beneath this notice another was posted, which read as follows: Fellow-Mine-Workers, United Mine Workers of America: Do not pay any attention to this notice, posted by Mr. Luther, of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., but wait until you hear from President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America, or until you have decided by your own locals what is right for you to do. [Signed] C. B. POTTER.

The regular Reading company advance for the last half of September and the first half of October had previously been fixed at six per cent. on the \$2.30 scale. The scale for the preceding 50 days was at the \$2.50 basis. The advance of ten per cent. offered in the posted notice by the Reading company is separate and distinct from the natural scale increase, and hence the total increase to the miners would be 16 per cent.

NO CONDITION ATTACHED.

Ten Per Cent. and Arbitration of Differences Offered. Scranton, Pa., Oct. 1.—At every colliery in the anthracite region a notice will be posted Tuesday morning announcing a ten-per-cent. increase in wages based on the present scale, effective October 1, and that the operators will arbitrate any grievance their employees may present. There is no condition to be attached as to the men returning to work before the arbitration will begin, and it is to be inferred that the men are privileged to meet in convention and adopt any plan of action they may deem advisable before entering upon arbitration.

It is supposed the miners will come together as members of the union, fix the minimum of the concessions they will be content with, and then go forth as individuals to treat with their employers through committees of employees. The arbitrations being concluded satisfactorily, if they will be, the committees of employees will report back to the convention of United Mine Workers that they have come to a settlement, and the strike will then be declared off. This would avoid the recognition of the union by the operators, and at the same time permit the union to regulate the terms of settlement.

MUST WAIT FOR ORDERS.

Mitchell Will Hold Out for Recognition from the Operators. Shenandoah, Pa., Oct. 1.—The notice of the Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., offering miners an increase of ten per cent. in wages was to-day posted in this town, at Mahanoy city and other places. Upon reading the notice Organizer Harris, whose headquarters are at Mahanoy City, issued instructions to the presidents of local branches of the United Mine Workers to warn the miners against returning to work until so ordered by the officials of the union.

A QUIET SABBATH.

Strike Leaders Remain at Home—Taking the Pledge. Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 1.—The mine superintendents who attended the conference in this city Saturday night declined to say anything further yesterday as to the proceedings.

The day was very quiet at strike headquarters. The leaders remained at home. Those who visited the meeting place said they had heard nothing from the national executive officers about the holding of a convention.

President Mitchell will visit Wilkesbarre, on Tuesday, and an elaborate programme has been prepared for his reception. The mass meeting will be held at West Side park, and Mr. Mitchell will be the principal speaker.

At St. John's church, Pittston, yesterday morning, Rev. Father Garvey, the pastor, administered the temperance pledge to 1,300 members of his congregation who are engaged in the strike.

At Holy Saviour church, in this city, Rev. Curran, the pastor, administered the temperance pledge to 800 men.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES.

Consul McWade, at Canton, and Minister Conger, at Peking, Have Been Heard From.

TAOTAI SHENG'S STATEMENT VERIFIED.

Officials Responsible for the Late Massacres to be Punished—Personalities of the Chinese Members of the Peace Commission Authoritatively Announced.

Washington, Oct. 2.—Mr. Wu, Chinese minister, has received official confirmation of the issuance of an imperial decree degrading Prince Tuan, Kangi and other officials for their course in regard to the recent troubles in China. This information agrees with that contained in a dispatch received by the state department yesterday from Consul McWade, at Canton.

The minister has heard nothing of the designation of officials reported by Minister Conger to act in concert in peace negotiations, but he has no doubt it is correct.

IMPORTANT DISPATCHES.